



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Dock t No. 081848/0180

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09-02-03

Applicant: Takao KONDO

Title: MICROCOMPUTER AND METHOD FOR REWRITING DATA ON  
FLASH MEMORY

Serial No.: 09/835,641

Filed: April 17, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2185

RECEIVED

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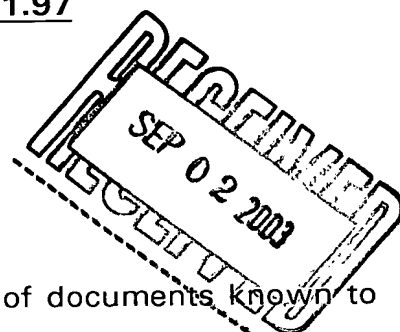
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-SB08 is a list of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any documents which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.



### **TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (first scenario). If that is not the case, such as in a second scenario in which a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed before the filing of the instant Information Disclosure Statement, then either a certification or fee is required, and a certification is provided below. If neither of the first or second scenarios is the case, such as if a final Office Action or a notice of allowance has been mailed by the PTO (third scenario), then both a certification and fee are required, and in that case a certification is provided below and also the PTO is authorized to obtain the necessary fee to have the instant IDS considered, from Foley & Lardner Deposit Account #19-0741.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that items of information A3 – A7 listed on the Form PTO SB/08 submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement. Items of information A1 is a U.S. patent and item of information is a published U.S. patent application that are counterparts to item of information A4, and item of information A2 is a U.S. patent that is a counterpart to item of information A6.

### **RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

A translation of a portion of a Korean Office Action that issued June 27, 2003 with respect to a counterpart Korean patent application is provided below.

"The inventions described in all of the claims in the present application relate to microcomputers and methods for overwriting data in flash memory; however, Cited Invention 1 of Korean Unexamined Patent Application Publication 99-30334 relates to external memory devices and data processing methods, and is an invention wherein, when boot data is driven by flash memory, if

there is old boot data, it is overwritten with new data, and Cited Invention 2 of Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-124321 relates to a method and device for downloading data to an electronic device in an invention that updates the program to a new version after generating separate versions of the program code for mutually differing device types, and so it is determined that it would be easy for an individual in the industry to invent the inventions described in all of the claims in the present application through combining the aforementioned inventions.

Although the inventions described in all of the claims of the present application have to do with microcomputers and methods for overwriting data in flash memory; Cited Invention 3 of Korean Unexamined Patent Application 00-40430 (Japanese Patent Application 98-56063, application date: 12/18/1998) has to do with a novel method and device for changing programs, which is an invention wherein a CPU that controls the overall operation of the system is provided, and after an original program is stored in memory, the version is retrieved, and, if necessary, updated to a new version, in an invention for updating, to the most up-to-date version, a flash memory in which a program is stored, and is essentially the same as the inventions described in all of the claims in the present application."

Applicant's statements regarding the Korean Office Action are based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, which is asserted in the Korean Office Action.

Applicant respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form-SB08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

August 27, 2003  
Date

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Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

## STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted: August 27, 2003

as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

## Complete if Known

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Application Number     | 09/835,641  |
| Filing Date            | 04/17/2001  |
| First Named Inventor   | Takao KONDO |
| Group Art Unit         | 2185        |
| Examiner Name          | Unknown     |
| Attorney Docket Number | 081848-0180 |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                   | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
|                    |                       | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |   |  |   |
|                    | A1                    | 6,308,325            |                                   | DOBBEK  | 10/23/2001                                       |   |
|                    | A2                    | 6,330,634            |                                   | FUSE et al.                                     | 12/11/2001                                       |   |
|                    | A3                    | 2002/0023177         |                                   | DOBBEK  | 02/21/2002                                       |   |
|                    |                       |                      |                                   |   |  |   |
|                    |                       |                      |                                   |   |  |   |
|                    |                       |                      |                                   |   |  |   |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                   | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
|                    |                       | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |  |  |   |                |
|                    | A4                    | JP                      | 10-124321           |                                   |  | 05/15/1998                                       |   |                |
|                    | A5                    | JP                      | 11-110141           |                                   |  | 04/23/1999                                       |   |                |
|                    | A6                    | JP                      | 1999-030334         |                                   |  | 04/26/1999                                       |   |                |
|                    | A7                    | JP                      | 2000-0040430        |                                   |  | 07/05/2000                                       |   |                |
|                    |                       |                         |                     |                                   |  |  |   |                |
|                    |                       |                         |                     |                                   |  |  |   |                |

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## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
|                    |                       |  |                |
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|                    |                       |  |                |

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.